

# Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

## + Our Pastoral Staff +

### Pastor

Rev. David W. Milliken

### Weekend Assistant

Rev. Tim Graff

### Parish Business Manager

Serina Sharkey

### Director of Maintenance

Brendan Suter

### Director of Music

Glenn Gordon

### Parish Trustees

Christopher Cudina

Elizabeth Delgado

### Religious Education Center

Theresa Carbone, Coordinator of Religious Education

Jeanette MacNish, Coordinator for Grades 7 & 8

Dena Sedlak, Coordinator of First Penance and

First Holy Communion



## + Our Pastoral Life +

### PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome all new parishioners to our parish family. Every family participating regularly in the spiritual life of our parish is encouraged to register at the Parish Office. Please inform us if you are moving.

### BAPTISM:

It is mandatory to attend a baptism instruction class before scheduling the date for the baptism. Baptism is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents must be registered parishioners and must attend pre-Baptism instruction usually given on the first Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room. Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing. Pre-registration at the Parish Office is necessary prior to the Baptism instruction.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Other times by appointment. Communal Penance Services are celebrated seasonally.

### MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

Please notify the Rectory of any elderly, shut-ins, or sick at home who wish to receive the Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick. Priests of the parish will be happy to visit parishioners in the hospitals in the area. Please notify the Parish Office if someone from your family is in the hospital and wishes a priest to visit.

### WEDDINGS:

Please make arrangements at the Parish Office with one of the priests of the parish one year in advance.



### Third Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2020

## + Our Parish Mission Statement +

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we, the Catholic Community of the Church of the Ascension, New Milford, commit ourselves to celebrate the Gospel of Jesus in Sacrament and Prayer. We dedicate ourselves to foster a warm and loving parish of concern and service for the individual, family and total community.

## + Our Eucharistic Celebrations +

### Saturday

8:30 a.m.

5:30 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

### Sunday

7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

### Monday - Friday

7:00 a.m. and 8:30am

8:00am Summer

7:30 p.m. (Fridays during Lent)

**Holy Days:** 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.

**Please see inside bulletin for Holiday Mass time**

## + Our Devotions +

Novena in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Rosary is prayed Monday through Saturday 7:15 a.m.



### PARISH CENTER

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### PARISH CENTER/RECTORY

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

(201) 836-8961 • FAX: (201) 836-5896

Website: [www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)

E-mail: [ascension@optonline.net](mailto:ascension@optonline.net)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

(201) 836-3085 • Fax (201) 836-5896

E-mail: [ascensionreled@optonline.net](mailto:ascensionreled@optonline.net)

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Third Sunday of Lent, March 15, 2020

5:30 Denis Mullins  
7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:30 Vito Cucco  
11:30 Mayette Mercado Roque

### Monday, March 16, 2020

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee  
8:30 Cecilia Isabel Revilleza

### St. Patrick-Tuesday, March 17, 2020

7:00 Cornelius O'Shea  
8:30 Gus & Viola Bell

### Wednesday, March 18, 2020

7:00 Mary Swiechocki  
8:30 Heather Nicole Bates

### St. Joseph-Thursday, March 19, 2020

7:00 Theresa O'Shea  
8:30 Fernandez Pena

### Friday, March 20, 2020

7:00 Rose DiPippo  
8:30 Larry Figalora, Fifteenth Anniv.  
7:30 Deacon James Stumbar, First Anniv

### Saturday, March 21, 2020

8:30 Ging Enaje  
5:30 Patricia Ann Gamez

### Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 22, 2020

7:30 Xavier Lawrence Habana, B'Day (L)  
9:30 People of Ascension Parish  
11:30 Peppino Trapani

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

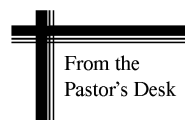
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

March 10, 2019: \$5,507.00  
March 8, 2020: \$4,150.00

Thank you very much for your generosity. You always care for and support our Parish programs, ministries and plant maintenance.

### Reading for Sunday March 22, 2020

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



Today, we see the symbolism of water at the heart of some significant life changes. A woman with a mysterious past honestly reveals her deep thirst, not only for water, but for spiritual fulfillment. So she is given the invitation to become a disciple to the people around her, a proclaimer of the truth of Jesus Christ. And she grabs it with both hands and runs with it!

It's almost impossible for us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to get how incredibly shocking Jesus' actions were in this gospel. First, it was unheard of for Samaritans and Jews to associate—they were the "Hatfields" and the "McCoys" of Jesus' time. They hated each other so much, they would not even use the same water dipper, much less stop and chat around the same community well.

But even more shocking was Jesus approaching a woman in public for a conversation. Even the apostles "were astonished" to see it. So, in one conversation with the woman, Jesus has broken through the barriers of ethnic race and gender.

By treating the Samaritan woman as a respected person, and a beloved child of God, Jesus defeats the hatred and injustice of the past: he tells one of the excluded, forgotten people that she is valuable, and that she belongs. He makes her his disciple.

Why? Because she is willing to admit that she is thirsty. She asks for the living water, and is open to receiving it. She has hope in her heart about Jesus: "Could he be the Messiah?" She is not full of the pomposity, the certainty, and the arrogance of those who think they know it all.

Do we have the vulnerability to include the stranger and the outcast? If so, never fear to ask Jesus for his living and eternal water!

✘ Don't forget that on **Fridays in Lent** we have added a Mass at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross.

✘ Please plan to join the priests and parishioners of St. John's, Bergenfield and St. Mary's, Dumont as we will celebrate our **Tri-Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service with Individual Confessions** at St. John's, Bergenfield on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. We will not have confessions here at Ascension this day.

✘ Please plan ahead to be with us on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will join together for our **Parish Lenten Evening of Reflection** which will begin with the Lenten Soup Supper at 5:30pm, 7pm with Stations of the Cross followed by Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for individual sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction. What a beautiful way to prepare ourselves for the holiest week of the year! Tickets for the Soup Supper are available from our Confirmation candidates and in the Parish Office. You can also order them by using the form in the bulletin.

✘ Lent is a very good time for us to participate in the **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal for 2020**. Our 2020 goal is **\$37,834.00**. To date we have received \$13,820.00 in pledges from 51 donors.

Please pray about making a pledge. I pray that every parish family will step up and support this beautiful way for us to "Shine the Light of Christ." May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts. Brochures are at the doors of the church.

✘ Cardinal Tobin has accepted my request for retirement on July 1, 2020. Please know that these 19 years with all of you at Ascension have truly been the source of so many of God's blessing in my life. I will keep you informed about my retirement in the months ahead.

Know that I pray for you every day. Please pray for me, too. God Love You!



Transfiguration Academy's annual International Night will take place on Saturday, March 28 at 6:30 PM in Conlon Hall. Tickets are \$20 for adults (14+), and \$15 for seniors and children (3-13). Advance tickets are required and can be purchased at the school office. Please call 201-384-3627 for more information.

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. For more information and to arrange a tour please call the school office or visit our website,

[www.transfigurationacademy.org](http://www.transfigurationacademy.org).

Transfiguration Academy knows that testing isn't the only measure of your child's education. Discover why our students thrive in and outside the classroom:

- Call to pick up registration materials and/or for a tour
- Email: [principal@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org)
- Visit our website: [transfigurationacademy.org](http://transfigurationacademy.org)
- Visit us on Facebook to experience how engaged our students and families are

Transfiguration Academy, serving students in grades PreK 2+ through grade 8, is a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools.



### MEMORIALS

"THANK YOU"...to those who have contributed to our Memorials Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the rectory with the coupon below. When an item is purchased we will notify you which item is in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call Fr. David at the Parish Office (201)836-8961.

Additional Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| MEMORIAL CANDLES:    | \$150/1 Year          |
|                      | \$20/30 Days          |
| ALTAR BREAD AND WINE | \$40 per week         |
| ALTAR FLOWERS        | \$50                  |
|                      | (per basket/per week) |
| SANCTUARY CANDLE     | \$15 per week         |

#### MEMORIAL FUND

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amt.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Requested: \_\_\_\_\_



Calendar:

Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (SCH)

Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>– 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:15 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>– 9<sup>th</sup> Grades from 7 pm to 8:15 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



This week the young people of the parish who are preparing for Eucharist reflected on their gifts, which are blessings from God. At the Eucharist (a word meaning "to give thanks") we thank God for all his gifts and blessings. How do we as a parish help others develop such a grateful heart?

Today, Sunday, March 15, 2020 the Religious Education Program will be doing the Stations of the Cross at 10:45 am in the Church. We invite all in the Parish to join us as we pray the stations.

#### Important:

The First Eucharist Retreat has been **SCHEDULED for March 22, 2020**. This is a MANDATORY Retreat for all First Eucharist Candidates and at least one Parent. Please Mark your calendar. We will see you on March 22<sup>nd</sup> starting with the 9:30 am Mass

**When your child/ren are going to be absent from class you must call the Religious Education office and let us know. We will call the home if you do not call us, so PLEASE make sure you have a working home or cell number that we can contact you especially in the event of an emergency.**

#### Volunteers Needed:

† Children's Liturgy of the Word Team member. This is a great opportunity for college students or student teachers to gain experience share their faith and work with students in a relaxed atmosphere. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

† We are in NEED of Catechists and Substitute Catechists for our Religious Education Program for the 2020-2021 School year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085

Religious Education Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – Parish Center

Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm – In School

Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School

Closed: Thursday & Saturday

Other times by appointment

MARCH 15, 2020



# *Church of the Ascension*

*New Milford, New Jersey*

*Invites You to Gather Together and Share...*

## *A Parish Lenten*

### *Evening of Recollection*

*(Sponsored by our parish 9th Grade Candidates for Confirmation, 2020)*

*Friday, April 3, 2020*

*5:30-6:45pm...Lenten Soup Supper (Fr. Benedict Center)*

*(Salad, Soup, Bread, Beverage, Dessert)*

*(\$8.00 per person. + NO tickets sold at the door.)*

*7:00pm...Stations of the Cross*

*7:30pm..Mass followed by*

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

*Holy Hour*

*Opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation*

*8:45pm...Benediction*

*Please detach and return form below by Sunday, March 29th*



*Church of the Ascension*

## *Parish Lenten Evening of Recollection*

*Lenten Soup Supper (Fr. Benedict Center)*

*Friday, April 3, 2020*

*Name* \_\_\_\_\_ *Phone* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *Number of Persons @ \$8.00 per person Amount enclosed \$* \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please make checks payable to: Church of the Ascension)*

*Please return form by Sunday, March 29th*



## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



*“To everything there is a season...*

*“a time to be healed...”*

Al Suter, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Eileen Kloeblen, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Ana Tumang, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, Peggy Evans, and those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

*“a time to serve...”*

Cpt. Jack Massingale, U.S. Air Force, Afghanistan, PFC Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Yokosuka, Japan, Sr.A James Penser, Beale AFB, CA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

*“a time for peace...”*

President Donald John Trump,  
our National Leaders and all World Leaders.

*“a time to die...”*

**John Bottcher**

*and a time for every purpose under heaven”*

*Ecclesiastes 3:11*



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns  
this week in loving memory of  
**Gerard Patrick Lee**

### OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one of our ushers know, prior to Mass, if you would like to bring the Offertory Gifts up to the celebrant. If Mass intention is one that you have requested or if for the intention of your loved one.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week**, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communions, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the parish office to check availability.



**BERGEN**

**Veterinary Hospital**

**201-837-1680**

**Please remember to patronize,  
who help make this bulletin possible**



### Third Sunday of Lent, March 15, 2020

#### **Social Concerns**

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am

Religious Education – 10:45am – 1-6 Grade

### Monday, March 16, 2020

Priests' Deanery Meeting

Food Pantry Distribution

Religious Education Grades 7 & 8 – 7:00pm

Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church



### Tuesday, March 17, 2020

No events

### Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Religious Education, Confirmation Prep. – 7:00pm

Novena – 7:30pm – Church

Boy Scouts – 7:30pm – Fr. Benedict Ctr.

Filipino Core Mtg. – 8:00pm – PC/Gathering Room

### Saint Joseph\*Thursday, March 19, 2020

No events

### Friday, March 20, 2020

Mass/Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm - Church

### Saturday, March 21, 2020

Confession – 11:00am

Children's choir – 4:15pm – Church

### Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 22, 2020

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am

Religious Education – 10:45am – 1-6 Grade

First Eucharist Retreat Day (9:30am Mass to 4pm)

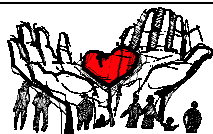
### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life is a community-based campaign that draws attention to helping unborn babies and putting an end to abortion through prayer, fasting, and standing in vigil outside the places where abortions are performed. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays thru April 4<sup>th</sup> join others in a peaceful prayer vigil across from Hackensack Women's Choice from 7:00am to 2:00pm. For more information contact Margaret at 201-805-0937.



### FISH FRY

St. John's Rosary Society is sponsoring a FISH FRY, featuring British Fish and Chips or Chicken Tenders, on Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 8:00 pm in Conlon Hall at St. John's Church, 19 N. William Street, Bergenfield. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children under 12. Dinner includes French Fries, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Desserts and Beverage. Take-out orders will be available at 5:30 pm. For tickets, please call Ria at 201-384-6279, Mary at 201-384-0488 or Joyce at 201-385-6869. Checks should be made payable to St. John's Rosary Society. Cut-off date for tickets is Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.



**PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION**

During this Lenten season please consider Stewardship, the sharing of your talents and time with any of the many ministries we offer here at your parish. Sing in our Choirs (adult/children)\*Become a Eucharistic Minister or Lector at our weekend Masses\*Minister at Woodcrest\*Help plan our Parish Events\*Become an Altar Server (adult/child)\*Join our Service Ministry\*Volunteer to cook for Harrison House\*Help with Altar Linens.

**Yes I am willing to share my talent & time. please contact me**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Ministry: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please print and return to the parish office or in collection basket)**

**H**ello from the Crochet Hub. We continue to meet on Friday's from 2-4pm in the Parish Center. Right now we are on our 3<sup>rd</sup> project, Prayer Shawls. Come join us if you can. If you cannot make it but wish to donate a shawl you made at home, please drop it off at the parish center on Friday between 2-4, or you can call Rosa at 201-417-6444 and I will pick it up. Thank you. Live Lent.



**THE FOLLOWING TRIPS ARE PLANNED FOR 2020**

**TRIP TO CAPE COD AND RHODE ISLAND, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> – 12, 2020.** Price of \$979 per person dbl. occ./\$1198 person single occ. Includes 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners, tour of 2 mansions in Rhode Island, guided tour of Provincetown which includes a whale watching cruise, ferry to Nantucket includes a tour, ferry to Martha's Vineyard, includes a tour, guided tour of Cape Cod National Seashore Visitor's Center, guided tour of Hyannis which includes the John F. Memorial, trip to Mohegan Sun Casino, luggage handling, all taxes and meal gratuities and motorcoach transportation. Deposit of \$100 per person due by March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Balance due by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**TRIP TO LANCASTER, PA. NOVEMBER 18 – 20, 2020.** Price of \$439 per person dbl. occ./\$539 per person single occ. includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, "Queen Esther" at Sight & Sound Theatre, "Deck The Halls" at The American Music Theatre, Elva's Chalk Art Presentation at Barnyard Studio, Kitchen Kettle Village, visit to Byers Choice LTD Visitor's Center, Christmas Museum & Creche Collection, luggage handling, all taxes & meal gratuities and motorcoach transportation. Deposit of \$100 per person due by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Balance due by Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Cancellation insurance is highly recommended.  
For reservations and info. call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)387-2632. All checks are payable to: Ascension Church, 256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

**SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST  
2020 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Our parish goal this year is \$37,834. and **100% of every dollar raised above goal will be returned to our parish.** So far we have received \$13,820.00 in pledges from 51 families. You may pick up a brochure, which outlines areas of support, at the doors of church or in the parish office.

If you have received your pledge card in the mail, kindly complete it and return to:

Archdiocese of Newark  
Development Office/Annual Appeal  
PO Box 9577  
171 Clifton Ave.  
Newark, NJ 07104

Please prayerfully consider making your gift via pledge or direct donation by check, credit card, matching or planned gift today.

Thank you for your support and generosity. God bless.



**REMEMBER DURING LENT**

Evening Mass on Friday's at 7:30pm  
followed by Stations of the Cross

**THE 2020 CENSUS IS COMING**

The Census is a survey to count every person in the United States, which helps government officials make important decisions that affect our lives. The Constitution requires that every ten years, every person living in the United States must be counted: all ages, races, and ethnic groups including citizens and non-citizens.

You can learn more about the Census, visit the Census 2020 NJ Coalition website at [census2020nj.org](http://census2020nj.org).

**\*FYLERS AT THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH\***

**HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY  
FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – MARCH 16<sup>th</sup>**

The following are items most needed to restock our shelves this month. Any item or items you can purchase for our pantry would be greatly appreciated. God Bless you for your continued support of this most important ministry to the poor.

- COFFEE-HOT COCOA-FRUIT COCKTAIL
- GRATED CHEESE
- PANCAKE MIX-PANCAKE SYRUP
- BREAD CRUMBS
- SALAD DRESSING-TISSUES
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT

**Your continued support of our ministry to the poor is greatly appreciated.**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
FYERS\*FORMS\*SCHEDULES\*  
UPCOMING EVENTS**

[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)